Anti-India riots in Madagascar town

2262. SHRI BHUVNESH CHA-TURVEDI; Will the Minister of EX-TEENAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(al whether Government have re-: ceived any information regarding anti-Indian riots in Madagascar town recertly;

(b) if 'so, what are the details of Indians who were killed, injured and lost their property; and

(c) what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIES (SHRI EDUARDO FA-LEIRO): (a). Government have received detailed reports of acts of violence against various foreigners including persons of Indian origin in different cities of. Madagascar.

(b) No !oss of life among persons of Indian origin has been reported. According to a preliminary assessment 150 shops and 107 houses belonging to persons of Indian origin were looted and 21 shops and 41 residences were burnt down. The situation continues to be tense.

(c) Government have urged the Government of Madagascar to extend thr: fullest protection to all Indians and persons of Indian origin.

Mobilisation of public opinion .. against Us help to Pakistan

2263. SHRI BHUVNESH CHA-TUEiVEDI: Will the Minister of EX TERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether in view of the reports about Pakistan making Atom Bomb and that US Congress will soon discuss and decide about th_e new military aid package to Pakistan, does Government of India have any plan to mobilise public opinion in U. S. A. and inside the Us Congress particularly against the move; and

(b) what other steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FA-LEIRO): (a) Government have been making consistent efforts to convey t_0 the US. Government, Members of the Congress and other sections of public opinion in the U. S., India's concerns about the supply of sophisticated arms by USA to Pakistan, the non-peaceful dimensions of Pakistan's nuclear programme and the adverse consequences of these developments.

(b) Government are alert to de-i^{v} velopments having a bearing on India's security.

Tissue culture for tree saplings

2264. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:.

(a) whether tissue culture technique for production of tree saplings has been perfected several years ago by NPL and other laboratories including JNU and if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) how many saplings have been produced and planted so far by using this technique and with what survival rate; and

(c) whether a mission-oriented project would be launched for speedy afforestation in the country?